

## **IX. Conclusions**

This document describes the problem of asthma in Washington State. The evidence is strong that asthma harms all types of people and their families, and drains resources for systems that serve our population. The facts presented justify including asthma interventions as a public health priority, and also as a priority to be addressed within a variety of non-health systems.

The Washington State Asthma Plan, currently in development, will provide the action steps that our state will take to reduce the burden of asthma. In summary, this report argues that “people should care” and the Plan will provide the context for “what we can do about it.”

Successful approaches in asthma prevention and control will include multidisciplinary partnerships among public health professionals and advocates, healthcare providers, school administrators and staff, business leaders, elected officials, community workers, and families. Working together we can make breathing easier for everyone in Washington State.